



6685 Coolidge Highway
Troy, MI 48098-1943
248.524.3567



Nature Center Hours

Monday Closed
Tuesday-Saturday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Sunday 12 noon - 5 pm

Holiday Closures:

Labor Day Weekend - Aug 30, 31 and Sept 1
Thanksgiving Day - Nov 27
Christmas - December 24, 25
New Years Eve - December 31

Nature Center Trails: The Nature Center trails will stay open (June 1-Oct 31) during normal business days until 9 pm.

The Stage Nature Center (SNC) is a 100-acre facility operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. Admission is free! In addition to our scheduled programs, the interpretive center and trails are open during posted hours. Come and enjoy our new exhibits and Children's Nature Area.

Let the Stage Nature Center be your gateway to the natural world! There are more than two miles of nature trails for you to enjoy, winding through meadows, forest, and stream. These trails are for **walking only**, please leave bikes in the bike rack near the parking lot. Jogging, pets, and collecting are not allowed.

"Our mission is to create passion for, and knowledge of, the natural world in the hearts and minds of our citizens, which will lead to increased understanding, and stewardship of our natural environment."

Icon Key



The Envelope icon represents classes that are available for mail-in, drop-off, or walk-in registration only. **They are not available for on-line registration.**



The Early Bird icon indicates programs that were first offered in the previous bulletin issue and are available for immediate registration by walk-in, mail-in, or on-line methods. Do not use the registration drop box at the Community Center.



Junior Naturalist Club

The Junior Naturalist Club (JNC) is a very popular year long program dedicated to teaching your children about nature. We believe wholeheartedly in learning while having fun.

The JNC meets the second or third Saturday of each month and everyday for one week in July. The membership fee includes all meetings (September through July), crafts, patches, naturalist kits, and a family barbecue during July Week. We have openings for kids from preschool (four years old) through fifth grade.

Non-members are welcome to attend Saturday meetings when space is available. Each session is \$8 at the door for nonmembers. Phone the Stage Nature Center to inquire about space availability. **Minimum registration numbers are required by August 30.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$95

Activity	Section	Gr	Day	Time	Date
337061A	Discoverers	4yr	Sat	10-11:30 am	Sep 13
337062A	Adventurers	K	Sat	10-11:30 am	Sep 20
337063A	Trackers	1	Sat	10-11:30 am	Sep 13
337064A	Explorers	2	Sat	12:30-2:30 pm	Sep 20
337065A	Questors	3	Sat	12:30-2:30 pm	Sep 13
337066A	Seekers	4-5	Sat	12:30-2:30 pm	Sep 20



Naturalist Backpack Rental

Rent a naturalist's backpack anytime equipped with lots of exploring equipment to make your hike along our trails an interactive experience for your whole family. Cost is \$10 for two hours.

Stop at the SNC front desk during regular business hours for details!

Yoga, Naturally

Instructor Janice Bahura will train you in the proper techniques and basics of Hatha Yoga, emphasizing plant and animal postures found in nature. This series of ten classes is great for the beginner or continuing student. Previous yoga experience is not required. Wear loose comfortable clothing, bring a yoga mat, and a towel. Yoga blocks or straps are optional. At the instructor's discretion some classes may be held outside.

Participants must be registered prior to class time. Minimum registration numbers are required by September 2.

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$99

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347329A	12-Adult	Sun	1-2 pm	Sept 7-Nov 9

Scout It Out



Webelos, Bears, Brownies and Junior Scouts can complete their nature-related badge or try-its here at the Stage Nature Center during these special two-hour programs. All items necessary to fulfill the requirements for the particular badge or try-it are covered. Scouts receive a certificate of completion at the end of each program. Sorry we do not furnish the badge or try-it itself.

Registration is now available for all of these programs for individual scouts, dens, or troops. Dress for the weather, scouts will be outside for part of the program rain or shine. Leaders need to remain with their groups. Individual scouts, not accompanied by a scout leader, must have adult supervision. Adults and scout leaders are admitted free. **Sorry, there are no refunds or transfers for these programs.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$7

Webelos - Forester

Minimum registration numbers required by September 27.

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347203A	Webelos	Sat	9-11 am	Oct 4
347203B	Webelos	Sat	12-2 pm	Oct 4

Bears - #5 - Sharing Your World With Wildlife

Minimum registration numbers required by January 24 .

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
317204A	Bear Cubs	Sat	9-11 am	Jan 31
317204B	Bear Cubs	Sat	12-2 pm	Jan 31

Juniors - Wildlife

Minimum registration numbers required by April 18.

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
327207A	Juniors	Sat	9-11 am	Apr 25
327207B	Juniors	Sat	12-2 pm	Apr 25

Brownies - Water Everywhere

Minimum registration numbers required by May 23.

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
327216A	Brownies	Sat	9-11 am	May 30
327216B	Brownies	Sat	12-2 pm	May 30

Terrific Trees

New

The nature center trees are getting ready for winter. Through a wide range of activities and games find out how trees prepare for winter and how to identify the trees even when they have no leaves! At the end of the program each participant will have their own field guide for some of the trees at the nature center. It is optional to bring a camera if you would like to have a picture of the trees in your field guide. Please dress to be outside on the trails. This program is appropriate for home school students or Troy School students on their half day break. **Minimum registration numbers are required by September 12.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$5

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347333A	6-12	Fri	1-2:30 pm	Sept 19

Evening at the Farm

Campfire and Hayride

It's time for some fun around the campfire at the Troy Farm. Learn about nature in early autumn as we enjoy the warmth and camaraderie of a campfire. We will have some animal mounts, pelts, and other natural items to help everyone discover how things will be changing throughout the season.

Please dress for the weather as this program is conducted entirely outdoors. This is a family program, children must be accompanied by an adult. Each person participating must enroll and pay the fee. **Minimum registration numbers are required by September 20.**

Location: Troy Farm

Fee: \$5

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347862A	3 -Adult	Sat	6:30-8 pm	Sept 27



It is said that fondest memories involve family outings – sign up for an “Evening at the Farm” and create your own memories!

New

Nature Center O.W.L.S

You should belong to the Nature Center O.W.L.S. if you are an older, wiser, livelier, senior! This brand new program will be offered seasonally throughout the year. This season, come say hello to October and enjoy the sights and sounds of fall. The program will start indoors with a brief introduction by a naturalist. Then we will venture outside to experience the wonderful colors, creatures, and cooler temperatures of the season. The hike outside will be on a wood chipped trail. Physically challenged participants are welcome to attend and then enjoy the indoor exhibits as an option instead of the hike outside. **Minimum registration numbers required by Sept 24.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$3

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347210A	Adult	Wed	10-11:30 am	Oct 1

Little Acorns

Come grow with us in nature. Explore the sights, smells, and sounds of fall with your child. Children will get a first hand experience with nature through an interactive hike. This program will take place completely outside, except in the event of extreme inclement weather. Bring children in backpacks, strollers with large wheels, sturdy enough for a wood chipped trail. This program is designed for children age 1-4 and their adult parent/caregiver. **The adult partner is free and must accompany the child throughout the program. Minimum registration numbers are required by Oct 2.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$4

Activity	Ages	Day	Time	Date
347051A	1-3	Thu	10-11am	Oct 9
347051B	3-4	Thu	1-2 pm	Oct 9

Kids: Celebrate Your Birthday

...at the Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center! Our birthday parties are a special way to celebrate your youngster's special day.

These two hour parties include a naturalist led talk, live animal demo, nature activity, hike, decorations, invitations, and a gift for each party participant.

Children ages 4-7 can choose from:

- Birthday at the Pond
- Making Sense of Nature
- Furs, Feathers and Fins

Children ages 8-12 can choose from:

- Secrets of the Forest
- The Rap on Raptors (Birds of Prey)
- Wildlife Trackers

Cost is \$120 for up to 12 children, with \$10 for each additional child up to a maximum of 18.

Call us at 248.524.3567 for more details or to book your party!

Sign Up Early!

Help keep quality nature programs alive by registering early. Our classes require advanced planning and set numbers to proceed. Register early so classes don't get canceled for "lack of interest."

*Register online beginning August 19;
Non-resident registration begins August 26.
More details on page 87.*

Trick or Treat Among the Trees

A Parent and Child Activity



Halloween doesn't have to be ghastly and frightening, it can be fun and friendly. Join us at the Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center for an outdoor Halloween celebration!

Put your Halloween costume on and come out to hike the woodland pumpkin trail at one of the times listed below. After checking in at the Nature Center, each child gathers with others at his/her registered time. Then the group hikes down the trail with a SNC guide, stopping at natural history stations along the way. At each stop children will learn some secrets of the forest and receive a treat or special prize. There will be one final stop at the Nature Center for a special treat!

This program is for children 3-9 years old and their parent or grandparent! The adult partner is free and must accompany the child throughout the program. Dress for the weather! **Minimum registration numbers are required by October 18.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$7

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347046A	3-9	Sat	5-6:30 pm	Oct 25
347046B	3-9	Sat	5:15-6:45 pm	Oct 25
347046C	3-9	Sat	5:30-7 pm	Oct 25
347046D	3-9	Sat	5:45-7:15 pm	Oct 25
347046E	3-9	Sat	6-7:30 pm	Oct 25
347046F	3-9	Sat	6:15-7:45 pm	Oct 25
347046G	3-9	Sat	6:30-8 pm	Oct 25
347046H	3-9	Sat	6:45-8:15 pm	Oct 25

Autumn Adventures

Parents 'n' Tots

Trees changing colors, leaves rustling underfoot, and cooler temperatures all combine to make autumn a wonderful time to explore the out-of-doors. Join us with your "tot" as we explore this beautiful time of change. We'll talk about seasonal events and the difference between tame and wild animals. Then it's outside for a hike to discover fall happenings. We will finish with a simple bat craft to take home.

This program is for children age 3-6 and their parent/grandparent. The adult is free and must accompany the child throughout the program. Dress for the weather! An outdoor hike is included in this program. **Minimum registration numbers are required by October 5.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$9

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347009A	3-6	Sun	3-4:30 pm	Oct 12

Full Moon Madness

Come and enjoy the mysteries of nature at night on this full moon hike at the Stage Nature Center. Experience nature in the dark – where everything takes on a different appearance than during the day, and the moonlit landscape is spectacular. Different kinds of wildlife are active during the “nightshift” like fox, mice, and owls – which we may hear during our hike. So join us on the trail this evening as we explore the “dark side” of nature.

Please dress for the weather, no need to bring a flashlight – we’ll hike by the light of the moon. This is a family program; children must be accompanied by an adult. Each person participating must enroll and pay the fee. **Minimum registration numbers are required by November 7.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$4

Activity	Ages	Day	Time	Date
347847A	7-adult	Fri	7-8:30 pm	Nov 14



Mistletoe ‘n’ Moonlight at Cattail Cove Nature Shop

Tuesday, November 18

5-9 pm

Looking for unique gifts for the holidays? Then come to our popular annual gift shop sale!

Open to everyone, including children, as we have a children’s play area for your children while you shop. We will have food samples of different soups and dips, and an assortment of gift items from companies in and around Michigan. Come shop for the bird lover in your family, that novice gardener, or even the budding naturalist.

We now accept Visa and MasterCard, for your convenience. There will be free gift wrapping and drawings for door prizes!

For more information,
call the Stage Nature Center at 248.524.3567.



Wild about Turkey

Come to the Nature Center to learn about this fascinating bird! Learn to wobble and gobble like a turkey in the wild. Through interactive activities, stories, and games you will discover the rich history and some odd behaviors of the Wild Turkey in Michigan. This program will be both inside and outside so please dress for the weather. **Minimum registration numbers are required by November 15.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$6

Activity	Ages	Day	Time	Date
347100A	Grades 1-5	Sat	9:30-11 am	Nov 22

Deer Santa

We all know Santa’s reindeer (on Dasher, and Dancer...) are very famous and help him every year, but do you know about the deer that live in Troy? Come out and discover all about our local deer on our special “Reindeer Trail” outside at the Stage Nature Center. See if you can run as fast, jump as high, or walk like a deer. Find out how you compare to a deer in height, what deer eat, and why those antlers fall off every year!

Inside, join Santa Claus as he tells a few tales about his reindeer and life at the North Pole. Everyone will get a chance to talk with Santa personally, and receive a small gift from him as well. Parents and grandparents are welcome to bring their own cameras and take pictures of their little ones with the jolly old elf.

Children will also enjoy some cookies and juice, and make a seasonal craft. Please dress for the weather as part of this program occurs outside. Each child participating in the program must be registered. Parents and/or grandparents are free and need to remain with the child. **Minimum registration numbers are required by November 29.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$11

Activity	Ages	Day	Time	Date
347042A	3-8	Sat	9-11 am	Dec 6
347042B	3-8	Sat	1-3 pm	Dec 6

Did you know that.....

- In 2008 we made 11 gallons of Maple Syrup.
- Maple sap is only 2-5% sugar.
- Sugar is in the sap because the tree makes it during photosynthesis.
- Maple syrup is made by boiling sap.
- It takes 40-60 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.
- Maple syrup is 66% sugar.
- Freezing nights and warming days are needed to begin the flow of sap.
- It takes over 40 volunteers helping during the month of March to make the program a success!
- In 2008 over 1300 people participated in Maple Syrup time.

If you are interested in Volunteering for the Maple Syrup program or others at the Nature Center, please stop in to fill out a volunteer application or call 248.524.3567 for more details.

Holiday Break Nature Hike

Time to work off those extra holiday calories with a good stretch of the legs on a hike through our woods and fields. It's also a great time to escape from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. We'll meet in the nature center building and then head out for a hike in search of critters large and small, and do a little snow snooping if possible. Don't forget to bring along your binoculars or borrow some of ours for a better view of the sights along the way.

Remember to dress warmly as we will be outside for much of the time. This hike will take place snow, rain, or shine. This is a family program. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Each person participating must enroll and pay the fee. **Minimum registration numbers are required by December 20.**

Location: Stage Nature Center

Fee: \$3

Activity	Age	Day	Time	Date
347838A	3-adult	Sat	9:30-11 am	Dec 27



Maple Syrup Rent-A-Tap Program

We are offering you a unique opportunity to join in the syrup season and help support the Stage Nature Center by renting a maple tap in the SNC's sugar bush.

Our Rent-A-Tap packages will be boxed, attractively wrapped, and available for pick up at the Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center starting on March 7, 2009. For an additional cost Rent-A-Tap can now be shipped throughout the United States (see form for rates). For Alaska and Hawaii shipping rates, call SNC for details.

For only \$34.95 we will stuff your maple syrup box chock full of the following goodies:

- One pint of pure maple syrup
- 9 pieces of maple sugar candy
- Spile used to tap the maple tree
- A "lease certificate"
- SNC's Sugar Bush News
- Plus several other bonus items

If you are renting a tap for your class, scout group, or large family, consider supersizing it for an additional \$10 (\$44.95 total) and you will receive everything listed for the regular Rent-A-Tap, plus:

- An additional pint of maple syrup
- An additional 6 pieces of maple sugar candy

Both Rent-A-Tap sizes include a reservation for the Maple Syrup Time tour for up to 4 people free (a \$16value!) Tours last approximately 1.5 hours. Maple Rent-A-Tap leases must be received by January 9, 2009.

Join in the syrup season this year and help support the Stage Nature Center by renting a maple tap in the SNC's sugar bush!

Maple Rent-A-Tap Form

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (10 digit): _____

Please check here if this is a gift: _____
We'll send you an official SNC Rent-A-Tap gift certificate.

Gift Recipients's Name: _____

Maple Syrup Time reservation for (4 person max.):

Name: _____ # in Group: _____

Please circle the appropriate date for your group:
Individuals and Families: March 7 or March 14, 2009
Scout Groups: March 21, 2009

Choose a time for your tour (all times apply to all dates):

9 am	()	9:30 am	()
10 am	()	10:30 am	()
11 am	()	11:30 am	()
12 pm	()	12:30 pm	()
1 pm	()	1:30 pm	()
2 pm	()	2:30 pm	()
3 pm	()	3:30 pm	()

Space is guaranteed if reservations are made prior to 1/9/09.

_____ Regular Rent-A-Tap @ \$34.95 = _____.

_____ Supersize Rent-A-Tap @ \$44.95 = _____.

If you would like your R-A-T shipped (excludes insurance)

_____ Regular Rent-A-Tap shipping \$12.00 = _____.

_____ Supersize Rent-A-Tap shipping \$15.00 = _____.

Ship To Address: _____

Please make checks payable to the **City of Troy - SNC**. Send completed order form and check (*do not send cash!*) to:

Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center
6685 Coolidge Highway
Troy, Michigan 48098-1943